

## Lent 2025



Lent is a time of preparation and repentance as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter. It is a time of personal reflection, of penitence for our sins, and a reminder of our great need for God's grace and forgiveness. As Christians, Lent is a time for us to renew our commitment to Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord.

This year for Lent, we will hear Jesus' teaching in the gospel of Mark. The scripture for the first week of Lent is Mark 9:33-37. In this passage, Jesus's disciples are embarrassed as they are caught arguing about which of them is the greatest. Jesus teaches them the true meaning of greatness. "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and a servant of all." Then Jesus took a small child into his arms as an example of what it means to be a servant. Children were on the bottom rung of society in Biblical times. Welcoming and serving the least in society is the greatest service we can do in God's name. Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes a child in my name welcomes me and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

The good news of the gospel is that everyone is welcome into God's kingdom through the arms of Jesus.